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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY CARCEMATION

| | | East Germany | REPORT | 25X ² |
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| SUBJECT | | Progress Report on Priority Research at East German Universities for the | | anuary 1954 |
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2. Progress in University Research in the First Half of 1953

The following analysis of progress achieved in research and development work in the Institutes of the Universities and the Technical University, Dresden, in the half-year to 30 June 1953 was prepared in September in the State Secretariat for submission to the Central Office for Research and Technics (ZAFT):

- a. State of the research and development work and its fulfillment
 - (1) Eight relatively unimportant tasks were due to be completed in the first half-year. Five of these were not completed. However, those completed included the most important of the eight, viz.: "Vorrats-fm und Ernte-fm". Four other tasks were completed ahead of schedule.
 - (2) The current priority tasks (D-Themen) were given, by and large, the planned priority so that it is probable that they will be completed on time. The same can be said of the other more important tasks of the 1953 Research Plan. However, a number of difficulties which will result in delay have been experienced in connection with some tasks. In particular, shortages of apparatus and raw materials, the departure of scientists and the tardiness in approving the research plan have caused delays. The First Supplement to the Research Plan could not be passed to the Institutes until the second half-year, and its budgeting could not be completed until the end of August.
 - (3) The following more important tasks were finished:
 - 300101 F3-218 "Vorrats-fm und Ernte-fm"
 - 300104 F3-169 Vitamin C in tuberculosis of the skin
 - 300104 F3-109 Periodical inflammation of the eye in horses
 - 300106 F3-104 Mechanism for the discharge of geiger counters
 - (4) The scientific and economic significance of the results of research during the first half-year can only be estimated after the detailed final reports have been evaluated.
 - (5) The following tasks had to be broken off because the scientists responsible dropped out:
 - 300102 F3-34 Surface tension
 - 300104 F3-180 Mechanics of articulation (Gelenkmechanik)
 - (6) The following tasks are being carried out in a slightly altered form:
 - 300106 F3-37 Inorganic crystals
 - 300106 F3-38 Fused electrolytes
 - 300106 F3-39 Special glasses
 - (7) Seventeen tasks were not started at all, partly because of personnel difficulties and partly because equipment was not delivered in time. The reasons still have to be studied in detail.
 - (8) The First Supplement was not received until 30 June, so that not one of the tasks could be started in the first half-year.

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b. Financial fulfillment

It is not possible to give a satisfactory analysis of the monies devoted entirely to research, because of the peculiar organization of the university institutes, which are engaged in teaching as well as in scientific research. The following figuresconcerning the utilization of money made available from the Central Fund "Research and Development" can, however, be given:

1952 - Planned figure 5,105,000 DM. Used by 30 June - 1,699,000 DM (#33%)

1953 - Planned figure 7,337,000 DM. Used by 30 June - 3,228,000 DM (=44点)

No figures are available for the corresponding figures for 1951, but we estimate that about 30% of the planned sum was used by 30 June.

c. Appreciation of the work of the Institutes

The work of the research and development Institutes was varied in quality, but showed in general an appreciable improvement over that of the year 1952. Some Institutes, especially the biological Institutes in Rostock and Greifswald and the physics Institute in Halle are severly handicapped by shortage of accommodation. This difficulty could be relieved in other cases. The departure of scientists affected scientific work. The nationalized firms very often do not keep to their delivery dates. The present order compelling the purchase of smaller items through the German Trading Centers (DHZ), and forbidding the use of the Trading Organization (HO), has been a serious; hindrance. Similarly, the difficulty in satisfying the demands for apparatus has hindered work.

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d. Appreciation of the work of the State Secretariat and ZAFT

- (1) The work of the Department for Research of the State Secretariat for Higher Education was seriously affected by shortage of staff. The Directorates for Research in general fulfilled their duties satisfactorily, but overloading of the Directors with teaching and other organizational duties resulted in many cases in some neglect of their duties of scientific supervision.
- (2) Certain administrative aspects of the processing of the research proposals by ZAFT led to difficulties. For instance, unscientific putting forward of the completion dates of biological and agricultural tasks caused considerable annoyance to the professors concerned. In addition, the officials of ZAFT often made statements which would not have been made, had they previously consulted the State Secretariat. The morale of the heads of institutes was particularly seriously affected by the delay in issuing the First Supplement until the end of June, and the delay until 22 August in the release by the Ministry for Finance of the money required to finance it.
- NOTE: The following explanation of the first item of paragraph 2 will clarify the layout of the report:

F3-63=1953 serial number of the research tasks on the list for the University concerned.

Chemisches Institut = Institute carrying out the research.

Inorganic, etc., = short title (Kennwort) of the research.

70 = 70,000 DM (East) = money allotted for the research in 1953.

F2-39 = 1952 serial number of the research, which was brought forward from that year.

Comment: Reserve-"fm" and Harvest-"fm".

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